

STATE OF INDIANA

DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE
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100 NORTH SENATE AVENUE N1058(B)
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204

August 24, 2007

VIA U.S. MAIL

RE: County Assessor and Auditor Data Compliance

Dear Karen Hatter, White County Assessor and Jill Pool Guingrich, White County Auditor,

The Department of Local Government Finance ("Department") sent a letter on July 20, 2007, to several counties requesting that each county comply with Indiana law and provide the Department with all pay 2007 datasets, which include the 2006 Sales dataset, 2007 Assessor dataset, and 2007 Auditor dataset. White County did not receive the July 20 letter because it had already submitted compliant data for all pay 2007 datasets. I would like to thank all White County officials, and especially you, for your timely and compliant data submissions. You should be commended for all of your hard work.

The purpose of this letter is not only to thank you for all of your hard work, but also to emphasize the importance of submitting compliant historical datasets, which may date back to as early as the 2002 payable 2003 year. Compliance by all counties with the Department's data requests has never been more important. Governor Daniels and the Indiana General Assembly are conducting an in-depth analysis of the property tax system in our state. To continue this analysis, and as an important policy-making tool, obtaining full and accurate datasets from each county is crucial for the success of these efforts. The Department's July 20, 2007, letter requested the submission of the most recent datasets. The Department now requests that all counties comply with Indiana law and provide full and accurate datasets beginning with the 2002 payable 2003 year. For the on-going analysis to continue, White County must submit the following datasets, which according to Department records are still noncompliant, by **October 15, 2007**:

<u>DATA SET</u>	<u>OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE</u>	<u>ORIGINAL DUE DATE</u>
2006 Real Property Data	County Assessor	October 1, 2005

Because this data plays such a key role in policymaking, the Department will neither review nor approve any unit's 2008 budget or pending 2008 debt issues in White County until compliance is achieved. Also, if the noncompliance continues into 2008, White County may have its 2008 PTRC distributions withheld until all datasets are compliant.

Communication is essential to resolving any outstanding data compliance issues. We encourage you to update the Department on White County's current status with regard to the requested datasets. Please do not hesitate to ask any questions that you may have regarding data compliance, including requesting that a state information-technology expert assist you in submitting the data. Please contact the Department at data@dlgf.in.gov with questions relating to data compliance and/or to submit any information on White

County's data compliance plan. Counties may check the status of each dataset by accessing the statewide data status spreadsheet, which is updated weekly, on the Department's website at <http://www.in.gov/dlgf/rates/>.

As a reminder, all data submissions should be directed to Diane Powers, Director, Fiscal and Management Analysis, Indiana Legislative Services Agency at dpowers@iga.in.gov. I appreciate your continued hard work in ensuring that White County becomes compliant with all data submission statutes and regulations. Working together, we can provide a fair and equitable system for all Indiana taxpayers.

Sincerely,

Cheryl A.W. Musgrave
Commissioner

CC: General Assembly
President and Members of the County Board of Commissioners
County Council Members
IT Directors
Tax and Assessment Vendors
Local Taxing Units